

FURMAN F. FORDHAM II

A strategic leader, with over 30 years of proven pastoral experience in transforming organizational culture and implementing systems that support sustained church growth, who is passionate about empowering Adventist pastors and their congregations to become Spirit-led, gospel-oriented, and mission-driven.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

South Central Conference (SCC) of Seventh-day Adventists (SDA): 12/06 – Present

- Church Ministries & Mission Development Department (CMMD) / Director (December 2020 – Present)
 - *Designed and implemented the Spirit-led, Mission-driven Church Development Process with 46 churches engaged*
 - *Created the “Compass” bimonthly newsletter with 24 editions produced*
 - *Established the CMMD Prayer, Prison, MESSAGE Magazine, and Community Engagement Ministries*
 - *Conducted Strategic Planning for SCC Executive Committee, and SCC Youth Department*
 - *Partnered with F. H. Jenkins School in Pentecost 2025 Campaign resulting in 53 decisions for Christ and 9 baptisms*
 - *Redesigned and managed the 2025 SCC Camp Meeting Adult Worship Services*
- Riverside Chapel SDA Church: Nashville, TN / Senior Pastor (December 2006 – March 2021)
 - *Received Nashville New Pastor of the Year Award: Community Outreach and Discipleship*
 - *Developed the church’s mission statement, and implemented a mission-driven organizational structure*
 - *Co-authored book “Mission-Driven Ministry” (AdventSource)*
 - *Successfully transitioned to: contemporary worship style, church of small groups, and spiritual gifts-based ministry*
 - *Launched annual Agape Medical Clinic, Financial Literacy Symposium, Back to School Bash, and SOW Sabbaths*
 - *Moved church board leadership demographic from 4% under 40 years of age to 40% under 40 years of age*
 - *Instituted Senior Prayer Meeting*
 - *Recorded the church’s first musical CD—The Riverside Project: Music & Devotion*
 - *Mentored 9 members who became district lay pastors, associate pastors, lead pastors, or commissioned chaplains*
 - *Retired the church’s \$1.2 million mortgage, and doubled the annual income from \$1 million to over \$2 million*
 - *Doubled average weekly worship attendance from 300 people to 600 people*
 - *Received SCC Pastoral Excellence Award in Publishing (2008), Prayer Ministries (2009), Evangelism (2009, 2010, 2011, 2012), Sabbath School (2013, 2014), and Education (2016)*
 - *Established the Riverside Spanish and North Cheatham County Church Plants*
 - *Accomplished conference-assigned task of reaching young adults (18–35) without alienating seniors (65+)*

Central States Conference (CSC) of SDA: 06/95 – 11/06

- Allon Chapel SDA Church: Lincoln, NE / Pastor (June 2003 – November 2006)
 - *Received CSC Highest Attendance Increase Award (2004, 2005)*
 - *Created second worship service*
- Charleston, MO; Sikeston, MO; and Hayti, MO Church District / Pastor (January 1999 – May 2003)
 - *Led in the building of a new worship facility, Grand Avenue SDA Church, Charleston, MO*
 - *Established Charleston Community Food Bank and served as president*
- Coffeyville, KS; Independence, KS; and Springfield, MO Church District / Pastor (June 1995 – August 1996)

North American Division Evangelism Institute Externship Program: 09/96 – 12/98

- Straford Memorial SDA Church: Chicago, IL / Assistant Pastor (September 1996 - December 1998)

Victorian Conference of SDA, South Pacific Division - 06/93 – 05/94

- Wantirna SDA Church: Melbourne, Victoria, Australia / Youth Pastor (June 1993 - May 1994)

ADDITIONAL LEADERSHIP ROLES

Chairperson: Imagine Nashville KY-TN & SCC Ministerium (2018 – 2020)

Vice-Chairperson: Pastoral Evangelism and Leadership Council (PELC) (2013 – Present)

Chairperson: F. H. Jenkins Preparatory School Board (2013 – 2018)

EDUCATION

PhD in Religion: Adventist Studies (*in progress*), ANDREWS UNIVERSITY, Berrien Springs, MI (2020 – Present)

Master of Divinity, ANDREWS UNIVERSITY, Berrien Springs, MI (1998)

Bachelor of Arts in Ministerial Theology, OAKWOOD COLLEGE, Huntsville, AL (1995)

Bachelor of Science in Business Management, OAKWOOD COLLEGE, Huntsville, AL (1995)